REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

Title of Publication:	Chobits Vol 2
Other Known Title:	Not Stated
Format:	Book
Director/Author:	CLAMP
Producer/Publisher:	Stuart Levy
Country of Origin:	USA, Japan
Language:	English, Japanese
Applicant:	Julie Gordon
Distributor:	Not Applicable
Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years.
Descriptive Note:	Not Applicable.
Display Conditions:	That, when the publication is on public display, the classification given to the publication must be shown by way of a label affixed to the front cover of the publication in such a manner that it is visible at all times.
Date of entry in Register:	30 March 2006
Date of direction to issue a label:	23 March 2006
OFLC No:	600230
Excisions:	Not Applicable

Reasons for excisions:

Not Applicable

Summary of reasons for classification:

The book *Chobits Vol 2* is classified as:
Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years.

The book is restricted because of sexual material. *Chobits Vol 2* is the second instalment in the serialisation of a Japanese manga story. It is a small black and white paperback book published in English for western audiences. It was submitted for classification by a member of the public under s13(1)(c) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993.

Chobits is a science fiction fantasy story with 'sexy' elements. A 19 year old Japanese student retrieves a female humanoid computer from the rubbish, takes her home and begins to fall in love with her, despite his misgivings about forming an attachment to a machine. The story is directed at older teenagers and young adults. While the dominant effect is gentle and romantic, the book assumes a level of knowledge about sex and adult entertainment that children would not possess. Some images are drawn for their erotic appeal or titillation and draw attention to sexuality. One part of the story involves the main female character being sexually exploited by a man in the adult industry. As a result the story is likely to be harmful to the public good if available to children, who do not have the awareness of sexual matters that most teenagers are likely to have.

Considering the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, the classification of this publication interferes with the freedom of expression, but not to a great extent. The restriction to teenagers and adults is the minimum available to prevent injury. It reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to limit the availability to children of publications with sexual material before they are emotionally and developmentally ready for it.